



Tamaskan Dog Health Month

This October is Tamaskan Dog Health Month -- well, not "officially..." yet. So let's make it happen!

As our collective population grows, it becomes more and more important to keep track of any issues that may arise in the breed, no matter how small it may seem. Minor or "random" items that may seem insignificant in an individual, may end up becoming a larger problem if they are not made known and are unknowingly propagated.

To assist in tracking health issues, [the website has a new form](#). Please use this to report any health items of concern, even if may seem like a "flake." The Committee of Breeders will be notified of your report once submitted, and may contact you for more information. Otherwise, any public disclosure of conditions will maintain your dogs' and owners' confidentiality in that the individual will not be named.

Tamaskan of the Month

BlaiddMon Drogo

"Atlas"

Game of Thrones Litter

Blustag Pluto x Blustag Sarina

Atlas is a giant opinionated goofball with lots of personality. He's a couch potato but can run all day if you like, he loves doing trick training and hiking and jumping over anything he can find (a log, a gate, another dog). He's a very loving family dog and we're very lucky to have him.

Atlas was approved earlier this year. He



lives in the UK, and is available for stud. Please contact [Eudora Tamaskan](#) for details.

Degenerative Myelopathy (DM)

Recently, it came to the attention of the TDR that Nanuk von Sirius Lupus, a Marxdorfer Wolfshunde foundation dog, received a different DM result through Embark than what was stated on his submitted paperwork when he was approved for the TDR breeding program. Specifically, his Laboklin results that were used for his submission specified him as "Clear" (N/N), but his Embark results denoted him as a Carrier. Nanuk has sired two Sylvaen litters, the "Fire" litter and the "Middle Earth Relics" litter. Please be aware that if you intend on using dogs in those lines, that steps should be taken to confirm their DM status prior to breeding.

Jessi Wilbur, a member of the TDR Committee of Breeders, would like to comment on degenerative myelopathy in general:

"Degenerative Myelopathy (or DM) is a fatal disease that affects the spinal cord of older dogs (typically over the age of seven years) by attacking the white matter of the spinal cord. The affected dog develops weakness in the hind limbs that resembles arthritis, which makes the disease difficult to diagnose because the early symptoms are much like hip dysplasia, and slowly progresses into paralysis of the pelvic limbs. The later stage of DM causes the affected dog to wobble and stumble while walking (also called "ataxia"), which is what distinguishes DM from the typical symptoms of hip dysplasia. Fortunately, DM is not painful for the dog. Unfortunately, the exact cause is unknown and there is no cure, and the only way to officially diagnose the dog is by examination under a microscope of the spinal cord when a necropsy is

performed. In dogs that are showing the clinical signs of DM, quality of life can be improved with intensive physical therapy. An affected dog's life can be extended by up to three years, versus the six-months to one-year survival for dogs who do not receive treatment.

While the exact cause may be unknown, there are simple DNA saliva tests available to know whether your dog is clear, a carrier, or at risk for the disease. The test determines the genotype of the dog, specifically looking for the SOD1 mutations. There is a percentage of dogs that have inherited two copies of the affected gene, yet do not experience any symptoms of DM at all, which means that the disease is not completely penetrant (not every dog with the gene mutation will develop the disease). Test kits can be acquired from OptiGen, Embark, GenSol and Animal Genetics, just to name a few."

The OFA has a good writeup on the matter as well, which can be found [here](#).

"Conditional" Registrations

Effective January 1, 2020, there will be slight changes to the rules regarding the CONDITIONAL registration status.

Currently, CONDITIONAL registrations are issued for the following:

- G1 Tamaskan Dogs resulting from an Outcross (FD) x Tamaskan Dog
- Tamaskan Dogs whose parents have not completed health testing at the time of litter registration

The following changes will be in effect next year such that CONDITIONAL is only issued for:

- Dogs who have one or both parents who are TDR-registered, but who have not completed all required health testing at the time of mating.

Dogs who are the offspring of a TDR-approved Outcross (FD) x TDR-registered Tamaskan Dog will still be "G1," but be granted FULL registration status if all health requirements are completed. Additional health tests to approve G1 dogs for breeding will remain the same and minimally include temperament and conformation evaluations. Depending on the breed of the outcross parent, more tests may also be requested by the Committee of Breeders.

Please note that older registrations of outcross dogs prior to June 2019 also had "conditional" status. That was changed earlier this year so that foundation dogs had their own registration tier, namely, FOUNDATION.

These changes, as well as all tests required by outcross, by breed, will also be posted on the website before the end of 2019.

New Litters

While we don't have any new litters to officially announce for September, there have been several planned litters and matings that we are very excited about! So please stay tuned!

New Approvals

The following dogs were approved in July/August 2019:

- Accidentally in Love Second Sony (Sonata), a Saarloos Wolfdog, residing in the Netherlands. Sonata is available through [Jacy Nashoba](#).

The following dogs received pre-approval in September 2019:

- Hawthorne Zion (Kiera), a G1 female Tamaskan Dog residing in Arizona, USA. Kiera is out of Hawthorne Black Dragon's Cauldron x Points Unknown Arrow.
 - Athena Mystic White Tamaska (Athena), a female G2 Tamaskan Dog residing in Michigan, USA. Athena is out of Annea Sunkmanitu Tanka O'waci x Sylvaen Ninjato.
 - Kadin of the First Triangle (DeeJay), a male Groenendal residing in the Netherlands.
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ICB Analysis Update

The ICB course is wrapping up, and I (Judy) need to provide an update regarding the breed's genetic analysis. Unfortunately, due to some insane and unforeseen real life "stuff," I have been extremely behind in finishing up pedigree traces for the ICB/Carol to analyze. I sincerely apologize for the delay.

The good news is, I have been in regular contact with Carol, and she understands what's going on. She is ready and will perform the analysis, whenever I can get the information to her. So don't worry!

At my current rate of effort, I will be done before the end of the year, meaning that the analysis will be executed sometime at the beginning of next year.

Thank you all for your continued patience and understanding.

Tamaskan Dogs Making a Difference

- story submitted by Peter Fredin (Vargskuggans)



Panzer is a G1 Tamaskan Dog, Vargskuggans Leroy, out of Vargskuggans Aphrodite and Midas. This story comes directly from Panzer's owner:

"Panzer and I have been working on getting him ready to be a Psychiatric Service Dog. He has taken to his tasks naturally by recognizing panic attacks and depression and drawing my attention away from those thoughts and feelings by applying pressure to my body and is starting to understand getting between myself and whatever is causing me anxiety. At this point he knows when things are going to get bad even before I do and acts to lessen the symptoms ahead of time. In the short time he has been in training he has seen castles in Scotland, Churches, Viking exhibits, and accompanies me on day to day tasks like going to the gym or shopping. In December we will be travelling to the states and he will be taking his first flight in cabin.

Through his work a lot of awareness for the breed has been raised and he has become a favorite on the military base we are assigned to. A lot of people assume he is a wolf and ask a lot of questions which we are happy to explain the Tamaskan history and traits.

We are hoping to be able to provide more service dogs to people in need through future litters, bringing an even more positive view to the Tamaskan breed."

If there's anything you would like to make sure is included in the next newsletter, please send us an email. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please also let us know. Remember, we are always looking for your dogs' stories, accomplishments, or anything else! Thank you!

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CLARIFICATION NOTICE

October 2, 2019

Clarification - "Conditional" Registrations

In the October 2019 Newsletter, the section regarding changes to the CONDITIONAL registration tier was unclear.

The original verbiage read:

"Dogs who are the offspring of a TDR-approved Outcross (FD) x TDR-registered Tamaskan Dog will still be "G1," but be granted FULL registration status if all health requirements are completed."

It should read:

"Dogs who are the offspring of a TDR-approved Outcross (FD) x TDR-registered Tamaskan Dog will still be "G1," but be granted FULL registration status if all health requirements **of both parents** are completed **at the time of mating.**"

To clarify, an outcross mated to a Tamaskan Dog will have puppies who receive FULL registration status as long as both parents have completed all required health tests at the time of mating. If one or more parents are missing required tests, then the puppies will receive CONDITIONAL registrations.

As also stated in the newsletter, puppies from an outcross litter will still receive "G1" registrations. Therefore, in order to be approved for breeding, they will still need temperament and conformation evaluations, as well as any additional tests required by the Committee of Breeders as applicable to their outcross parent's breed.

These changes will be effective on January 1, 2020, and apply to litters whelped on January 1, 2020, and thereafter. These changes, as well as the health tests required of foundation dogs, will be posted on the website before the end of the year.

We apologize for any confusion.



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